



Debbie Stabenow's Guide to Washington, D.C.



My Washington office is available to assist you in obtaining [tour tickets](#) for some of these attractions. My staff can also provide maps and brochures.

We are located in room 702 of the Hart Senate Office Building, located at the corner of 2nd and C Streets, NE, across from Union Station. Please drop by and say hello when you are in town.

Here are several resources to assist you in planning your trip to Washington. I hope they are helpful.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- Before you arrive in Washington, be sure to make your lodging reservations. Because of the high demand for hotel accommodations in the Washington area, it is usually unwise to arrive without a reservation. The downtown area can be expensive, so you may want to consider hotels in the nearby Virginia or Maryland suburbs. Be sure to consider access to the Metro, since taxi trips that cross state lines can be expensive.
- Washington has an extensive public transit system that is affordable and often faster than driving around town. [The Metro](#), DC's subway system, can take you all over the city and into some suburbs. Fares range from \$1.10 to \$3.50 each way. Farecards can be purchased at every Metro station. Bus fare is \$1.10 each way, or with a Metro transfer, 25 cents. Taxis usually cost less than \$15 because DC uses zoning price controls.
- Parking can be scarce around major tourist areas, so it is usually best to take the Metro or a taxi to those areas.

CLOSURE NOTICES

For security reasons, the following government buildings are closed:

- The Pentagon
- The White House
- The Old Executive Office Building
- FBI Headquarters
- The Department of Treasury (Engraving & Printing is still open)

Due to renovations, the following destinations are closed temporarily:

- National Archives (reopens 2003)
- The Newseum (reopens 2006)
- Smithsonian American Art Museum

Places to Visit: (Please note that neither I nor the U.S. Senate can take responsibility for any of the locations listed below. Listing on this page does not constitute my endorsement. Links to these sites will take you out of the U.S. Senate's web server, and I cannot be responsible for the information you find there. This information is subject to change.)

Arlington National Cemetery: Arlington, VA

Metro: Arlington Cemetery ● (blue) Phone: 703-607-8052

Open daily September through March from 8:00am to 5:00pm and April through August from 8:00am to 7:00pm. Highlights include the grave of President John F. Kennedy, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, The Lee Mansion (Arlington House), and the Challenger memorial.



The United States Botanic Garden: 1st and Maryland Ave, SW (Capitol Grounds)

Metro: Federal Center SW ●● (blue, orange)

The newly renovated Conservatory offers a beautiful and fascinating living plant museum here on our Nation's Mall at the foot of the U.S. Capitol. Open from 10:00am to 5:00pm, admission to the Garden is free.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing: 14th and C Streets, SW

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 866-874-2330 (toll free)

Tickets for the 40-minute public tour must be obtained the same day as the tour. Tours are run from 9:00am to 2:00pm, and then again from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. There are no tours on weekends or federal holidays. All tour visitors must present a valid photo ID at the ticket booth located on Raoul Wallenberg Place (formerly 15th Street) to pick up tickets. Same day tickets only. The Ticket Booth opens at 8:00 a.m. and lines form early and tickets go quickly. The Visitors' Center will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Individuals who would like to go to the Visitors' Center only must enter at the Tour entrance on the 14th Street side of the building. The Visitors' Center contains exhibits and two shops where items such as uncut currency, shredded currency, collectors' editions, and novelty items can be purchased.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: 17th Street and New York Ave, NW

Metro: Farragut West ●● (blue, orange) or Farragut North ● (red) Phone: 888-CORCORAN (toll free)

The largest non-federal art museum in the nation's capital, the Corcoran was founded in 1869. It was Washington's first art museum and ranks with Boston's Museum of Fine Arts and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art as one of the three oldest museums in the United States. Admission to the Corcoran is: \$5 for individuals; \$3 for senior citizens and students; \$1 for students ages 13-18; and \$8 for family groups of one or two parents and children under 18. Members and Children under 12 are free. Admission is free on Mondays, and on Thursdays after 5 pm. There is sometimes an additional fee charged for Featured Exhibitions.

Daughters of the American Revolution Museum: 17th and D Streets, NW

Metro: Farragut West ●● (blue, orange) or Farragut North ● (red) Phone: 202-879-3241

Founded in 1890, the DAR Museum is Washington's only decorative arts museum. The museum galleries are free and open during museum hours for browsing on your own. Free docent-led tours of the period rooms are available from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm on Monday through Friday and from 1:00 to 5:00 pm on Sunday. Each month the museum offers programs highlighting the collection. Admission is free.

Decatur House: Jackson Place and H Street, NW

Metro: Farragut West ●● (blue, orange) or Farragut North ● (red)

Designed by architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe, Decatur House has been a landmark since its completion in 1818. Located one block north of the White House on Lafayette Square, the museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00am - 3:00pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 noon - 4:00pm. Closed Mondays. Admission is free.

Dumbarton Oaks: 1703 32nd Street, NW (Georgetown)

Metrobus: Routes 30, 32, 34, 36, D2, D4, M12 (no Metrorail service in this area)

This house museum includes extensive Byzantine and Pre-Columbian art. Surrounding the building on its north, south, and east sides are ten acres of formal gardens. The gardens are open to the public daily between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (November through March) and 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (April through October). Museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Admission to the museum is free. Garden is open mid-March through October from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. \$5.00 admission; children and senior citizens \$3.00. During winter, hours remain the same, but admission to the garden is free.



Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial: South bank of the Tidal Basin near the Jefferson memorial

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange)

The main part of the memorial remains open 24 hours a day. The Interpretive Ranger staff are available from 8:00am to 11:45pm daily except Christmas Day. The Bookstore opens from 8am to 10pm. All restroom facilities close 15 minutes prior to midnight.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI): E Street between 9th and 10th Streets, NW

Metro: Metro Center ●●● (red, blue, orange), Federal Triangle ●● (blue, orange), Gallery Place ●●● (red, green, yellow), Archives/Navy Memorial ●● (green, yellow)

The FBI Tour is operating on a limited basis--conducting tours for scheduled school groups only. For periodic updates on the status please call (202) 324-3447.

Folger Shakespeare Library: 201 East Capitol Street

Metro: Capitol South ●● (blue, orange) or Union Station ● (red)

Established in 1932 by Henry Clay and Emily Jordan Folger, the Library is home to the world's largest collection of Shakespeare's printed works, as well as collections of other rare Renaissance books and manuscripts. Included in the collections are over 310,000 books and manuscripts; 250,000 playbills; 27,000 paintings, drawings, engravings, and prints; and musical instruments, costumes, and films. Open Monday - Friday, 11:00am; Saturdays, 11:00am and 1:00pm. Gardens open April through October, every third Saturday, 10:00am and 11:00am. Admission is free.

Ford's Theatre: 511 10th Street (between E and F Streets, NW)

Metro: Metro Center ●●● (red, blue, orange)

The site where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, Ford's theatre is an important landmark in downtown Washington. As a living tribute to President Abraham Lincoln's love of the performing arts, the theater continues to work and puts on regular stage productions. Self-guided tours of the theater, museum and Petersen House (where Lincoln died, located across the street) are free. **Note: Ford's Theatre will be closed for renovations from mid-June until mid-November.**



Jefferson Memorial: Tidal Basin

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange)

This memorial to our third President and father of the Declaration of Independence is open daily (except Christmas Day) from 8:00am to 11:45pm. Park Rangers present several interpretive talks at the memorial upon request. At the Swan Boathouse you can rent a paddleboat to cruise the basin.

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: New Hampshire at Rock Creek Parkway NW

Metro: Foggy Bottom ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-416-8340 TTY: 202-416-8524

Free tours of the Kennedy Center are given by the Friends of the Kennedy Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. They depart from the parking plaza on Level A, and feature the Hall of States and Hall of Nations, the Center's main theaters, and dozens of paintings, sculptures, and other artworks given to the Center by foreign countries.

Korean War Memorial: Independence Avenue and 23rd Street, SW (National Mall)

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange)

The Korean War Veterans Memorial honors those Americans who answered the call, those who worked and fought under the trying of circumstances, and those who gave their lives for the cause of freedom. Open 24 hours daily.

Library of Congress: 1st Street and Independence Ave, SW

Metro: Capitol South ●● (blue, orange)

The Library serves as the research arm of Congress and is recognized as the national library of the United States. Its collections comprise the world's most comprehensive record of human creativity and knowledge. It contains over 17 million books, as well as nearly 95 million maps, manuscripts, photographs, films, audio and video recordings, prints and drawings, and other special collections. By taking free guided tours offered several times a day you can see both the Great Hall and, from the Visitors' Gallery located just off of the Great Hall, you will be able to view the Main Reading Room from above. You also have the option of walking around on your own, using the self-guiding brochure or renting an audio tour.

Lincoln Memorial: The National Mall

Metro: Foggy Bottom ●● (blue, orange)

The Lincoln Memorial was built to resemble a Greek temple. It has 36 Doric columns, one for each state at the time of Lincoln's death. A sculpture by Daniel Chester French of a seated Lincoln is in the center of the memorial chamber. Inscribed on the south wall of the monument is the Gettysburg Address. Park Rangers present several interpretive talks at the memorial upon request. Open 8:00am until 11:45pm daily, except Christmas Day.

National Aquarium of Washington, DC: Dept. of Commerce Building, 14th Street NW between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues

Metro: Federal Triangle ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-482-2825

Open from 9:00am to 5:00pm daily, a self-guided tour of the Aquarium takes approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Admission for adults (11 and up) is \$3.00, children for 75 cents.

National Arboretum: 24th and R Streets, NE

Metro: Stadium/Armory ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-245-2726

The Arboretum's beautiful 446-acre campus in Washington, D.C. contains an array of display gardens, collections, and historical monuments set among native stands of eastern deciduous trees. From the Stadium/Armory station, transfer to Metrobus B-2; disembark the bus on Bladensburg Road and walk 2 blocks to R Street. Make a right on R Street and continue 2 blocks to the Arboretum gates. The Arboretum grounds are open every day of the year except December 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The National Bonsai and Penjing Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., so plan to visit this collection first if you visit late in the day. Admission is free.

National Archives: 8th Street and Constitution, NW

Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial ●● (green, yellow) Phone: 202-501-5205

See the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and other national treasures. Open daily from 10:00am to 5:30pm in winter and 10:00am to 9:00pm during summer. Admission is free. **Closed until 2003 for renovations.**

National Gallery of Art: Constitution Avenue between 3rd and 7th Streets, NW

Metro: Judiciary Square ● (red) or Archives/Navy Memorial ●● (green, yellow) Phone: 202-842-6691

Open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Gallery is closed on 25 December and 1 January. Admission is free.

National Geographic Society Explorer's Hall: 17th and M Streets, NW

Metro: Farragut North ● (red) or Farragut West ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-857-7588

Open Monday through Saturday and holidays from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Sundays from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Closed December 25.

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: 400 Michigan Ave, Northeast

Metro: Brookland-CUA (Catholic University of America) ● (red)

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is adjacent to the campus of The Catholic University of America. Dedicated in 1959, the Catholic Basilica has over 60 small chapels, a large upper church, and a lower crypt church. Free parking is available. The Shrine is open from 7:00am to 7:00pm.



Washington National Cathedral: Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues,



Northeast

Metro: Tenleytown/AU (American University) ● (red) then take any "30" bus going South on Wisconsin Phone: 202-537-6207

Open 10:00am to 5:00pm. Guided tours conducted Monday through Saturday from 10:00am until 3:15pm and Sunday from 12:30pm to 2:45pm. Gardens open until dusk. See a live "[Nave Cam](#)" of the Cathedral.

National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial: 400 block of E. Street

Metro: Judiciary Square ● (red) Phone: 202-737-3400

The memorial honors all of America's federal, state and local law enforcers. Inscribed on the Memorial's blue-gray marble walls are the names of more than 14,000 officers who have been killed in the line of duty. The memorial is right at Judiciary Square.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: New York Ave and 13th Street, NW

Metro: Metro Center ●●● (red, blue, orange) (13th Street Exit, 2 blocks north) Phone: 800-222-7250

Celebrating the contributions of women to the visual, performing, and literary arts. Open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; on Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. The museum is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Admission for adults is \$5.00, Seniors (60+) is \$3.00, Students with ID is \$3.00; youth 18 and under get in free.

Newseum: Closed.

The Newseum is closed until 2006. The new Newseum will be located at Pennsylvania Avenue and Sixth Street, N.W., between the U.S. Capitol and the White House and across the street from the National Gallery of Art.

Octagon House Museum: 18th Street and New York Ave, NW

Metro: Farragut West ●● (blue, orange) or Farragut North ● (red)

The oldest museum in the United States devoted to architecture and design, the Octagon serves as the museum of the American Architectural Foundation. Designed by Dr. William Thornton (who also designed the Capitol), this building served as President James Madison's Executive Mansion after the destruction of the original White House by the British in 1814. The Treaty of Ghent that ended the War of 1812 was signed in this building. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, except on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Guided, group, and multilingual tours are available. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children and senior citizens.

Pentagon: Closed.

Phillips Collection: 1600 21st Street NW

Metro: Dupont Circle ● (red) Phone: 202-387-2151

America's first museum of modern art, the Collection houses Renior's masterpiece *Luncheon of the Boating Party* as well as other outstanding impressionist and modern works. Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00am to 5:00pm, Sundays from noon to 5:00pm. Closed Mondays. Weekend admission is \$7.50 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors over 62, and full-time students. No charge for persons 18 and under. Weekday admission is by contribution.

Smithsonian African Art Museum: 950 Independence Avenue, SW

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange)

As a leading center for the visual arts of Africa, the National Museum of African Art maintains an extensive collection of understanding of the diverse cultures in Africa as these are embodied in aesthetic achievements in the visual arts. The museum accepts into its collections and exhibits the art of all African areas, including the ancient and contemporary arts for the entire continent. Open 10:00am to 5:30pm daily except December 25. Admission is free.

Smithsonian Air and Space Museum: 7th Street and Independence Avenue, S.W.

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange) or L'Enfant Plaza ●●● (green, yellow, blue, orange) Phone: 202-357-2700

Washington's most popular tourist destination, the Air and Space Museum has hundreds of artifacts on

display including the original Wright 1903 Flyer, the "Spirit of St. Louis," Apollo 11 command module, and a Lunar rock sample that visitors can touch. Open daily 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. except December 25. Admission is free.

Smithsonian American Art Museum: Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th Street N.W.

Closed for Renovations

Smithsonian American History Museum: 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Metro: Federal Triangle ●● (blue, orange) or Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange)

The National Museum of American History (NMAH) is devoted to collecting, preserving, and interpreting artifacts as a special class of historical evidence--and as principal expressions of human creativity. The Museum is interested in how objects are made, how they are used, how they express human needs and values, and how they influence society and the lives of individuals. NMAH's natural focus is on the history of the United States of America, including its roots and connections with other cultures. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed December 25. Admission is free.

Smithsonian American Indian Museum: **Opens in 2004**

Smithsonian Anacostia Museum: 1901 Fort Place, Southeast

Metro: Anacostia ● (green), transfer to W2/W3 Bus Stop on Howard Road Phone: 202-287-3306

As the Smithsonian Institution's museum of African American history and culture, the Museum explores American history, society, and creative expression from an African American perspective. Open every day 10:00 to 5:00; closed Christmas Day. Admission is free.

Smithsonian Freer & Sackler Galleries (Asian Art): The National Mall

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-357-4880

The Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery together form the national museum of Asian art. The galleries offer one of the Western world's most refined collection's of Asian art and the finest collections of paintings by James McNeill Whistler. Open 10:00am to 5:30pm daily, except December 25. Admission is free.

Smithsonian Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: The National Mall

Metro: L'Enfant Plaza ●●●● (green, yellow, blue, orange) Phone: 202-357-3091

Open daily except December 25, the Museum is open from 10:00am to 5:30pm, the Plaza from 7:30am to 5:30pm, and the Sculpture Garden from 7:30am to dusk. Admission is free.



Smithsonian National Zoo: 300 Connecticut Ave, NW

Metro: Woodley Park-Zoo ● (red)

The 163-acre Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Rock Creek Park is a world leader in exhibition, conservation, zoological research, and education. The Zoo is home to more than 5,800 animals—mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates. It was the first zoo established with the purpose of saving animals on the brink of extinction. Today, nearly 130 of the Zoo's species of animals are endangered or threatened. A highlight of any trip to the National Zoo is the Panda exhibit. The National Zoo is open every day of the year except December 25. Admission is free.

Smithsonian Natural History Museum: 10th and Constitution, NW

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange) or Judiciary Square ● (red) Phone: 202-357-2700

Dedicated to the natural world, this museum includes an IMAX theatre and a everchanging variety of special exhibits and displays. Open daily except for December 25 from 10am to 5:30pm, and open late until 8pm from May 24 to September 2.

Smithsonian National Postal Museum: 1st and Massachusetts NE (Next to Union Station)

Metro: Union Station ● (red) Phone: 202-357-2991

Located on the lower level of the former Washington City Post Office Building on Capitol Hill, this interactive museum focuses on postal history and philately (stamp-collecting). Open daily from 10:30am to 5:30pm. Admission is free.

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery: 8th and F Streets, NW

Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown ●●● (red, yellow, green) Phone: 202-275-1738

Closed for Renovations until 2004

Smithsonian Institution Building ("The Castle"): 1000 Jefferson Drive, SW

Metro: Smithsonian ●● (blue, orange) Phone: 202-357-2700

Open daily except December 25 from 9am to 5:30pm. Home to the Smithsonian Information Center, this is a great spot to begin your Smithsonian tour. The Castle features two orientation theaters and numerous interactive information components, scale models of monumental Washington, and volunteer information specialists to answer questions and to provide direction.